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March 5, 2004

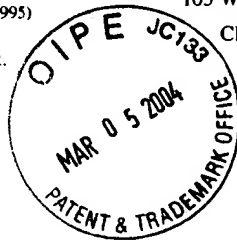
FOUNDED 1890

PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT
AND RELATED MATTERS; ALL PHASES
INCLUDING LICENSING AND LITIGATION

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OF COUNSEL
RICHARD BUSHNELL

VIA EXPRESS MAIL

MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: United States Patent Application
Serial No. 09/856,412
For: **"TOP LOADING WASHING MACHINE AND
METHOD OF BRAKING SAME"** (as amended by
The Examiner)
Our Ref: Case 96-PCT-US (1170/39383)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the Issue Fee payment and the formal drawings in connection with the above-noted case.

We noted that the title of the invention in the Notice of Allowance the title is "Laundry Machine", which title is incorrect. The correct title is -- **Top Loading Washing Machine And Method of Braking Same** -- in accordance with the Examiner's Amendment, the relevant copy of which is enclosed.

Please make this correction, so when the patent issues it will issue with the correct title.

Should there be any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Sincerely,

TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI,
BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda L. Palomar", written over a horizontal line.

Linda L. Palomar

Registration No. 37,903

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Title:

- Delete "Laundry machine", insert --Top loading washing machine and method of braking same--.

Inventorship

3. See attached decision to the petition under 37 CFR §1.48(b) filed 23 October 2003.

Response to Arguments

4. In view of applicant's amendment filed 23 October 2003, the status of the application is as follows:

Claims Objections

The objections of claims 7-9 are withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment correcting informalities of claims 7-8 and cancellation of claim 9.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

The rejection of claims 7-8 has been withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment to the claims thereby overcoming the indefiniteness rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

6. The closest prior art of record, US 5,247,231 to Glucina, fails to teach each and every limitation of the instant invention. Specifically, Glucina fails to teach or suggest the washing machine or method of braking as claimed further including utilizing an unused component in a washing machine, such as a water pump, to dissipate power during braking, which is disclosed as an essential element of claimed invention, as described in claims 7-8 & 15-16.

7. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 7-8 and 15-16 (renumbered as claims 1-4) are believed to recite patentable subject matter.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

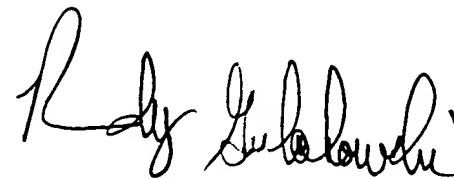
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703)305-0626. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00, except alternate Fridays.

10. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy P. Gulakowski can be reached on (703)308-4333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

11. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0661.

Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.
Examiner
Art Unit 1746

jlp


Randy P. Gulakowski
SUPERVISOR
ART UNIT 1746
FAX (703) 872-9306